



NORTHERN PARISH FORUM MEETING notes
Held at Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge 7pm Wednesday 26 April 2017

Parish Attendees:

Linda Cooper	Aysgarth
Alison Sayer	Aysgarth
Andy Landau	Burton-cum-Walden
Jane Ritchie	Burton-cum-Walden
Mary Fawbert	East Witton
Richard Wells	East Witton

NPA Attendees:

Carl Lis OBE	Chairman
David Butterworth	CEO
Allen Kirkbride	Parish member on NP Board & Chair Northern Parish Forum
Gary Smith	Director of Conservation & Community
Richard Graham	Head of Development Management
Julie Payne	Member Services Officer
Susan Allison	PA to CEO/Chairman
John Blackie	
Yvonne Peacock	
Roger Harrison-Topham	

The chair welcomed attendees to the Northern Forum for Parish Councils and asked people to introduce themselves.

The following topics were covered:-

Enforcement Actions

Richard Graham gave a presentation identifying the processes involved, how and under what circumstances; the National Park Authority took enforcement action. Usually a question of expediency and with an eye on whether enforcement was likely to have a successful outcome – cost was not a factor when deciding whether to progress a case. Data protection and future legal action was the reason that enforcement actions are treated differently [perhaps appearing to be treated more secretly] from that of planning applications i.e. by not being able to put current cases onto the NPA web site. Discussion also covered the sometimes necessary lengthy processes; the risks of not applying for planning permission resulting in significant extra building/reparation costs and the more proactive nature planned in future by the NPA when dealing with enforcement compared to the more reactive situation of the past.

Parish councils can help by identifying and monitoring possible planning breaches.

Action: The **NPA** to consider whether those reporting complaints [whether individuals or Parish Councils] can be better and/or more regularly informed on the progress and eventual outcome of each enforcement case. Consideration to be given to separate document being sent to PCs on enforcement cases [in addition to that contained within the planning papers already received].

National Park Management Plan

Gary Smith explained why the Plan is important, and how PCs can get involved in influencing what goes in it. His presentation explained the fundamentals of how the Plan is produced, and the timetable. The first public consultation will start around the middle of May, and details will be sent to all Parish Councils and Meetings. Comments included: the value of the Authority's spend each

year (c£200 per head of population); the need for more housing and better provision for an ageing population; the difficulties of influencing/retaining all current local services (esp schools); the impact of large agricultural and other vehicles on local roads and bridges, and on their use by horses.

Housing

Government is consulting on its Housing White paper - around another week left for consultation, which is open to individuals as well as organisations. Some of the proposals would have implications for housing in the National Park. Comments included: the ongoing lack of clarity from Government about whether s106 agreements can be overridden under the 'right to buy' proposals; the loss of social housing in the National Park; and, the need to provide affordable housing to rent in the Park. Other issues discussed were the viability of housing development on the small sites in the Park, and how that can be tackled by varying housing size and mix of tenure.

'Ashtag' project

Ash dieback disease can't be stopped from spreading. Scientists now are concentrating on monitoring ash trees to try to identify disease resistant trees that might be used to 're-populate' woodlands in future. The Authority was asking each parish to 'tag' and monitor one ash tree. The responsibility once attaching a tag is to report on its progress annually onto a website database along with a photo. As the Ash is an iconic important species for the Dales National Park the hope is that the scheme will be widely supported by its residents.

Any Other Business

It was agreed that it would not be appropriate to discuss the way in which the various local authorities were dealing with additional requirements for barn conversions until after the local and national elections because of 'purdah' rules that apply to all local authorities.

Future meetings

David Butterworth reminded attendees that the Authority had set up the Parish Forums as a trial, with the intention that they be reviewed after 2 years worth of meetings. That review will happen after the autumn meetings, and will evaluate whether the Forums have been an effective way to engage with parishes.

SAA

28.4.17